

Inventions under 35 U.S.C. 121. The Inventions stated are Group I - Claims 1-17 to a process, classified in Class 427, subclass 127 and Group II - Claims 18-30 to a SVGMR sensor element, classified in Class 428, subclass 632.

Applicant provisionally elects to be examined the Invention described by the Examiner as Group I - Claims 1-17 drawn to a process classified in Class 427, subclass 127. This election is made with traverse of the requirement under 37 C.F.R.1.143 for the reasons given in the following paragraphs.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the Requirement for Restriction given in the Office Action. The Examiner gives the reason for the distinctness of the two inventions as (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different products or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP 806.05(f)). However, upon reading the product Claims against the process Claims one can readily see that the product Claims are directed to "a spin valve giant magnetoresistance (SVGMR) sensor" and the process Claims are directed to "a method for forming a giant magnetoresistive (GMR) sensor element", it is necessary to obtain claims in both the product and method claim language. The method Claims necessarily use the product and vice versa. The field of search must necessarily cover both the method class/subclass 427/127 and products class 428/632 in addition to other related

Classes and subclasses to provide a complete and adequate search. The fields of search for the Group I and Group II inventions are clearly and necessarily co-extensive. The Examiner's suggestion that "the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP 806.05(f)). In the instant case the product can be made by a process comprising utilization of the method steps in reverse order", is very speculative and really has nothing to do with the Claims as presented in this Patent Application. Further, it is respectfully suggested that these reasons are insufficient to place the additional cost of a second Patent Application upon the Applicants. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw this restriction requirement for these reasons.

Withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement and the Allowance of the present Patent Application is requested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SBA', is written over the typed name.

Stephen B. Ackerman, Reg.# 37761